



## PCT

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**(71) Applicant** (for all designated States except US): **KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.** [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

**(72) Inventors; and**

(75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STORMS, Maurits, M., N.** [NL/NL]; c/o Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Cross Oak Lane, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5HA (GB). **DANIEL, Bobby, J.** [IN/NL]; c/o Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Cross Oak Lane, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5HA (GB).

(74) **Agents:** WILLIAMSON, Paul, L. et al.; c/o Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Cross Oak Lane, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5HA (GB).

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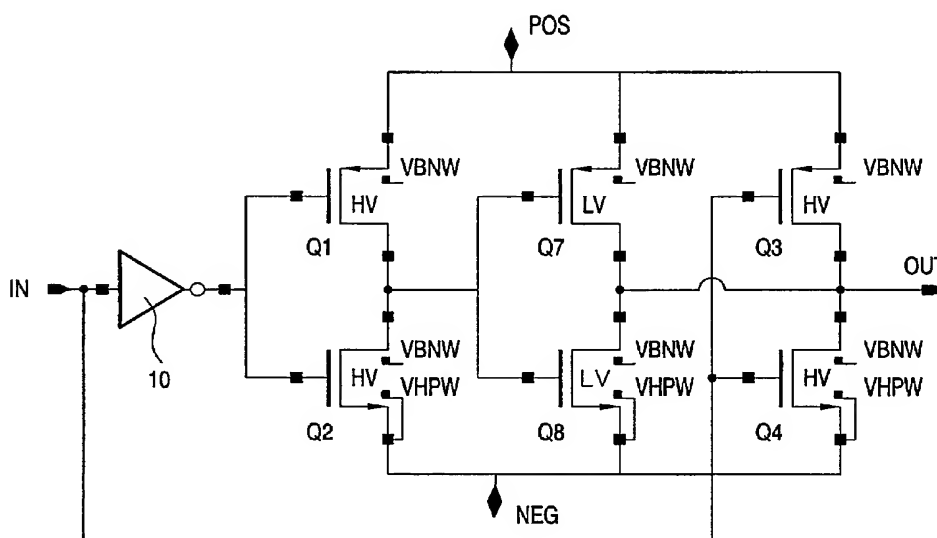
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**(54) Title:** HIGH VOLTAGE DRIVER CIRCUIT WITH FAST READING OPERATION



**(S7) Abstract:** A high voltage driver circuit for devices such as non-volatile memories, in which a low voltage driver is combined in two different ways with a high voltage driver. In one, input-independent embodiment, a low voltage driver (Q7, Q8) is connected directly in parallel with a high voltage driver, thereby providing a high voltage signal path for high voltage operations and a low voltage signal path for low voltage operations. In an alternative, partially input-dependent embodiment, a low voltage driver is connected to the output of a high voltage driver (Q9, Q10), which may comprise a partial level shifter (Q 1 B Q6). The output of this low voltage driver (Q9, Q10), which forms the output terminal of the entire stage, has a pull up/pull down transistor (Q11), depending on whether the partial level shifter (Q1 B Q6) is a positive or negative level shifting high voltage driver.

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